



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2011

Contact: Ann Fox (858) 616-5911

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF FOSTER PARENTS

Appreciation Banquet Honors More Than 150 Families

WHAT: As part of National Foster Care Month, the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) will host the 50th Annual Foster Parent Appreciation Banquet to honor more than 150 local foster families. Several awards will be presented during the banquet including Foster Parent of the Year, Above and Beyond Service Awards, and Adoptions Awards.

Long-Term Service Awards will also be presented to many families, including foster parents who have cared for foster children for 35 years and foster parents who have adopted 10 children. Additionally, a proclamation from the County Board of Supervisors will be presented to the local Foster Parent Associations.

WHO: **Supervisor Greg Cox**, County of San Diego Board of Supervisors, District 1
Debra Zanders-Willis, Director, County Health and Human Services Agency Child Welfare Services
Sam Bass, KyXy Radio, emcee
Foster care staff from HHSA
Local foster parents

WHEN: Friday, May 20, 2011
6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

WHERE: The Westin San Diego
"Crystal Ballroom"
400 West Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101

WHY: There are nearly 4,200 children in out-of-home care in San Diego County. Approximately 1,500 licensed foster families provide care for these abused and neglected children. San Diego County celebrates the commitment and dedication of these loving families, and encourages others to open their homes to care for and protect our most vulnerable children.

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